

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-03 ACDA-10 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NEAE-00 DHA-02 EUR-08 INRE-00 SSO-00 /064 W

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O P 161515Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7715

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 15238

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS LE IS

SUBJECT: PRIMIN KARAME ACCUSES ISRAEL OF INTERVENTION; RAISES  
POSSIBILITY OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION

1. RADIO LEBANON, IN COURSE OF 1400 LOCAL NEWSCAST,  
BROADCAST STATEMENT BY PRIMIN KARAME IN WHICH HE ACCUSED  
ISRAELIS OF INTERVENING IN LEBANON'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS  
AND RAISED THE SPECTER OF FURTHER ISRAELI AGGRESSION.  
KARAME SAID HE HAD HEARD ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BULLETIN ON  
RADIO ISRAEL MORNING OF DEC 16 IN WHICH IT WAS ANNOUNCED  
THAT ISRAELI ARMY, IN AGREEMENT WITH MINISTRY OF  
OF HOUSING, HAD APPROVED PLAN TO ASSIST JEWS OF WADI  
ABU JAMIL (JEWISH QUARTER OF BEIRUT).

2. KARAME CHARGED THAT THIS BROADCAST PROVIDED NEW  
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EVIDENCE OF ISRAELI INTENTIONS IN LEBANON AND INVOLVEMENT

IN "STIRRING" UP STRIFE WHENEVER THE SITUATION BECOMES QUIETER." DENYING THE EXISTENCE OF DISCRIMINATION OR HOSTILE ACTION AGAINST LEBANON'S JEWS, PRIMIN SAID HE WISHED TO DRAW ATTENTION OF ALL COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE GREAT POWERS, TO ISRAELI "PLOTS AGAINST LEBANON". IF ISRAEL IS ATTEMPTING TO USE THE ALLEGED CONDITION OF LEBANESE JEWS AS A PRETEXT TO COMMIT AN AGGRESSIVE ACT AGAINST LEBANON," HE ASSERTED, "WE SHALL DEFEND OURSELVES AND OUR DIGNITY."

3. I SAW PRIMIN AT 1245 LOCAL TODAY, DEC 16, ON OTHER MATTERS AND HE HIT ME HARD RE FOREGOING BUT DID NOT REPEAT NOT INDICATE HE HAD MADE ANY STATEMENT TO THE LOCAL PRESS. HIS DESCRIPTION OF ISRAELI BROADCAST WAS MUCH MORE LIVID THAT DESCRIBED ABOVE. PRIMIN SAID THAT EVERYONE WAS AWARE THAT JEWISH PEOPLE IN BEIRUT HAD NOT REPEAT BEEN MOLESTED MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE BY RECENT FIGHTING. IF ISRAEL WERE MERELY TO THREATEN MILITARY ACTION ON THIS PRETEXT, IT SHOWED NOT ONLY ISRAELI TRICKERY BUT ALSO PROVED TO THE WORLD ISRAEL'S DESIRE TO PROFIT FROM CURRENT LEBANESE MALAISE AND TO CONTRIBUTE AS ACTIVELY AS ISRAEL COULD TO ITS MAINTENANCE.

4. PRIMIN ALSO SAID HE HAD NOTED THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD RECENTLY CHIDED ISRAEL'S UNILATERAL ACTION. IN VIEW OF THIS CHIDING WAS HE THEN TO INTERPRET THAT THE USG HAD BEEN FOREWARNED OF THIS ISRAELI PLOY AND APPROVED OF IT? I MADE FOLLOWING POINTS TO PRIMIN:

A. I HAD NOT REPEAT NOT HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THE MORNING'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE ISRAELI BULLETIN.

B. IT WOULD SURPRISE ME IF IT HAD BEEN CARRIED AS HE HAD BEEN INFORMED.

C. I WAS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THE USG HAD NOT BEEN FOREWARNED, NOR HAD IT CONDONED THIS ALLEGED ISRAELI ACTION.

D. I HAD TAKEN CAREFUL NOTE OF EVERYTHING HE HAD TOLD ME AND WOULD REPORT, NOT ONLY TO WASHINGTON BUT ALSO TO TEL AVIV WHERE IT WAS EXPECTED ASST. SECRETARY ATHERTON

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WOULD BE ARRIVING SHORTLY.

5. AS INDICATED ABOVE, I HAVE AS OF THIS MOMENT NO REPEAT NO KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH AN ISRAELI BROADCAST. IF IT IS CONFIRMED, AND IF IT ALLUDES TO MOLESTATION OF JEWS, IT IS REPORTING WHAT IS NOT REPEAT NOT SUBSTANTIATED BY FACTS. ALL INFO POINTS TO THE FACT THAT BOTH SIDES IN THE RECENT FIGHTING HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY NOT REPEAT

NOT TO HARRASS JEWISH PEOPLE LIVING IN BEIRUT. AS FAR AS  
I AM AWARE, ONLY ONE JEWISH PERSON HAS BEEN KILLED AND HE  
WAS BEIRUT'S MOST PROMINENT CONFECTIONER, WHO WAS  
MURDERED IN NON-JEWISH AREA BY LEFTISTS WHEN HE REFUSED  
TO PAY PROTECTION MONEY AND WENT TO THE POLICE. HIS  
DEATH HAS BEEN DEPLORED BY THE PUBLIC MEDIA, WHICH HAS  
NOT REPEAT NOT INDICATED HE WAS JEWISH, AN ALLEGATION  
THAT HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN CITED EXCEPT BY ONE  
SOURCE.  
GODLEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BEIRUT15238  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <17 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRIMIN KARAME ACCUSES ISRAEL OF INTERVENTION; RAISES POSSIBILITY OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, LE, IS, (KARAME, RASHID)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006